

REMARKS

Claims 15-26 have been rejected and remain pending. The Examiner again indicated that Applicants' terminal disclaimer over U.S. Patent No. 6,472,209 was not filed. Applicants' respectfully re-submit that a copy of that terminal disclaimer was filed as evidenced by the attached date-stamped, return postcard. For the Examiner convenience, another copy of this terminal disclaimer is submitted herewith. Thus, Applicants' responses have been fully responsive to the prior actions.

In light of the above and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 15-26.

Double Patenting

The Examiner rejected claims 15-26 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being allegedly unpatentable over claims 1-7 and 21-25 of U.S. Patent No. 6,743,627. A terminal disclaimer has been filed herewith obviating this obviousness-type double patenting rejection. Thus, this rejection is moot.

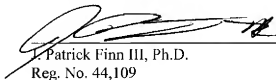
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully assert that claims 15-26 are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney if such would expedite prosecution. Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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